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Docket No. 110.0090 0101

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Laura P.W. Ranum, et al.) Group Art Unit: 1655
Serial No.: 09/181,585) Examiner: J. Souaya
Filed: October 28, 1998)
For: SPINOCEREBELLAR ATAXIA TYPE 8 AND METHODS OF DETECTION

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed on April 3, 2001. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

This response is accompanied by a Petition, as well as the appropriate fee, to obtain a one-month extension of the period for responding to the Office action, thereby moving the deadline for response from July 3, 2001, to August 3, 2001.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-3, 7, 13-15, 17, 19, 21, 33-35, 38-40, and 49 and add new claim 52. The new and amended claims are provided below in clean form. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121, the amended claims are also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made. For the Examiner's convenience, all of the pending claims, including those added hereby, are provided in Appendix A.

1. (Twice Amended) A method for detecting the presence of a DNA fragment located within an at-risk allele of an SCA8 coding sequence comprising:
- (a) treating separate complementary DNA molecules of a DNA fragment containing a repeat region of the SCA8 coding sequence with a molar excess of two oligonucleotide primers, wherein the SCA8 coding sequence comprises a

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02 FC:102